

2002 Virginia Traffic Crash Facts

Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles
Richmond, Virginia
August 2003

Commissioner's Message

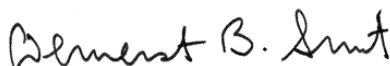
Dear Reader,

The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles is pleased to present the 2002 edition of **Virginia Traffic Crash Facts**. This document is the result of the cooperative efforts of the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, the Virginia Department of State Police and the Virginia Department of Transportation. It provides a comprehensive view of traffic crashes occurring in Virginia.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our fellow highway safety advocates for their endeavors. We at DMV pledge our continued commitment to safe highways for all citizens through innovative, effective and efficient public service.

I hope you will find this publication to be a comprehensive and useful tool in problem identification, education and community activities. Any comments you may have about the information or format are welcome.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Demerst B. Smit". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Demerst B. Smit
Commissioner

Table of Contents

	Page
Glossary	iii
2002 Quick Facts About Virginia	1
Virginia Crashes: 2002	
Statewide	2
Monthly Crash Data	2
Looking Back	2
On the Average.....	2
Speeding.....	2
Cumulative Mileage Death Rate	2
Crash Vehicles.....	2
Important Circumstances	3
Occupation of Driver	3
Crashes by Hour and Day.....	3
Age and Gender of Persons Killed.....	5
Age and Gender of Persons Injured.....	6
DMV Districts	7
Counties.....	8
Cities.....	10
Towns	11
Virginia Driving Trends:	
Summary: 1993-2002.....	15
Death Rate.....	15
Vehicles Registered	15
Licensed Drivers	15
Gasoline Consumption.....	15
Vehicular Mileage	15
Crashes	15
Fatalities	15
Injuries	15
Alcohol-Related Crashes	15
Alcohol-Related Fatalities	15
Alcohol-Related Injuries	15
Deaths on Major Holidays	15
Leading Death Causes: 2001.....	15
Monthly Crashes/Fatalities/Injuries	16
Economic Cost: 1997-2001.....	16
Virginia Crash Summaries: 2002	
Fatalities, Injuries, Crashes, Driver Action, Drinking Condition, Physical Condition, Age, Gender, Vehicle Action, Defect, Environment, Weather, Light, Traffic Controls	
Virginia Crashes.....	17
Virginia Fatalities.....	19
Alcohol	21
Automobiles	27
Bicycles.....	29
Buses.....	31
Mopeds	33
Motorcycles.....	35
Motorhomes/Recreational Vehicles	37
Pedestrians	39
Pickup and Passenger Trucks	41
Safety Restraints.....	43
School Buses	45
Trains/Vehicles	47
Straight Trucks.....	49
Tractor-Trailers	51
Tractor Twin-Trailers.....	53
Vans.....	55

Glossary

Alcohol-related crash: Crash where either a driver, bicyclist or pedestrian is listed on the police report as drinking before the crash.

Alcohol-related fatality: Person who dies within 30 days as a result of a traffic crash involving alcohol.

Crash rate: Number of crashes per 100 million vehicle miles, unless otherwise stated.

Death rate per vehicle miles traveled: Number of fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles.

Death rate per drivers: Number of fatalities per 1,000 Virginia licensed drivers.

Fatal crash: Crash which results in one or more fatalities.

Fatality: Person who dies within 30 days as a result of a traffic crash.

Percentage: Based on “known” totals within categories or actions. Does not include “unknown” or “not stated” data.

Personal injury crash: Crash which results in no fatalities but one or more persons are injured.

Property damage crash: Crash which results in no fatalities or injuries, but there is property damage of at least \$1,000.

Reportable traffic crash: Crash on a public highway which involves death, injury or property damage in excess of \$1,000.

Vehicle miles traveled (VMT): Total number of miles traveled on Virginia highways.

NOTE: Percentage on tables within documents are rounded and may not equal 100 percent.

2002 Quick Facts About Virginia

General Facts

- 913 persons were killed, a 2.35 percent decrease from 2001
- 78,896 persons were injured, a 1.61 percent decrease from 2001
- 147,737 traffic crashes were reported, a 2.18 percent increase from 2001
- There were 5,182,497 licensed drivers, a 1.61 percent increase from 2001
- There were 75,263,159,505 estimated vehicle miles traveled, a 13.46 percent decrease from 2001*
- There were 6,659,560 registered vehicles, a 2.60 percent increase from 2001

Alcohol-Related Facts

- 375 persons were killed in alcohol-related crashes, a 4.75 percent increase from 2001**
- 8,465 persons were injured in alcohol-related crashes, a 3.09 percent increase from 2001
- 45 teenagers, aged 15-19, were killed in alcohol-related crashes, 4.93 percent of the total (913) traffic fatalities
- 1,095 teenagers, aged 15-19, were injured in alcohol-related crashes, 1.39 percent of the total (78,896) traffic injuries
- 27,338 persons were tested with blood alcohol content (BAC) of .08 percent or greater a 4.00 percent decrease from 2001
- The average BAC of tested drinking drivers was .1382 ***
- Of those convicted of DUI, 83.42 percent were male and 16.15 percent were female
- 27,322 persons were convicted of DUI, 2.57 percent decrease from 2001

NOTE: * Mileage from 1993-2001 was calculated using gasoline consumption; starting in 2002 annual vehicle miles of travel will be based on vehicle count using a program developed by the Virginia Department of Transportation's Traffic Monitoring System.

**Medical examiner data used in addition to police reports to determine alcohol-related status.

***This includes an average of both breath and blood tests.